

LUETGERT'S NERVE SHAKEN BY THAT FATAL RING OF HIS WIFE.

Julian Hawthorne Vividly Describes the Scene in Court When the Prosecution Made Its Most Telling Point.

Pale to an Extraordinary Degree, the Prisoner Lost All His Defiance.

By Julian Hawthorne.

CHICAGO, Sept. 2.—The Luetgert defence found to-day that unwelcome truths may sometimes proceed from the mouths of babes and sucklings—if that description may serve for the two Hungarians or Poles whom they cross-examined this morning. These men are as simple as children, and their aim is to deliver the truth that is in them, whether by voluble speech or exhaustive gesture.

It is in vain to attempt to discredit their testimony by asking them whether they have been coached by the police, and it even proved vain to confuse them as to matters of fact. Though simple, they are very observant, and see in their minds living pictures of what occurred during the momentous pouncing of the police and the cleaning of the vat.

"I have received no money," "I have not

I must pause here to say a word about the audience. If there were more women than men yesterday, to-day there were hardly any men to be seen; the seats assigned to the spectators looked like a flower garden, such was the array of feminine hats. The women were of all kinds—young, middle-aged and old, respectable ladies from the fashionable districts, servant girls out of a job, women of the town, fantastic women, all nerves and gossamer, and nondescript creatures who seemed to have been created especially for this trial.

Women Eager and Intent.

Never was an audience more eager and intent; such craning of necks, such opening of eyes, such whisperings, such agitations; it was a spectacle almost to divert one's attention from the trial. What did all these women come here for? To admire Luetgert and sympathize with him? To see him con-

folded his arms and said: "I have not



WOMAN'S SHARE IN THE COURT PROCEEDINGS.

been instructed." "Only my wife gets a few cents to keep body and soul together from the inspector," "No, I have been offered no position."

Defence Gets a Blow.

Then, again, when they were asked about the statement yesterday that Luetgert looked "angry," the reply was that he had never been seen to look so "wild"; he stood wringing his hands as he looked into the vat. This emendation, of course, injured the defence; the cause of the emendation was that to-day the examination was conducted through a Polish, instead of, as yesterday, through a German, interpreter.

Odorofsky, when asked whether he had or had not said so and so at the previous examination, replied that he could not tell, because he had then been asked questions in English and could not fully understand them. And when Mr. Phalen, of the defence, inquired the height of a room Odorofsky answered that he could not give it; if the examiner wished to know how many feet had inches, he must go there and measure it; whereupon there was a rustle and smile in court.

The other Pole, Lavandowsky, appeared at first much scared, and his face was as pallid as if he were on trial for murder himself, but he soon became excited, and then, instead of getting mixed, he became clearer and more emphatic. The testimony of neither was shaken; on the contrary, each confirmed and strengthened the other, and when they left the stand the case for the defence had received a distinct setback.

A Bad Day for Luetgert.

But this was destined to be a bad day for Luetgert all through. Luetgert did not present the defiant aspect that he wore yesterday. He lounged and slouched as before, but there was a change in his manner—he twiddled his pencil, pretended to read a paper, but it was a palpable pretence; he often communed with his counsel, and the three heads were frequently drawn together; but no good result came from these discussions.

It is noticeable, however, that the relations between the prisoner and his lawyers seem to be almost extravagantly affectionate; they are fond of throwing their arms around one another's shoulders and laying their mouths to one another's ears. If it is designed to affect the jury, I doubt if it succeeds. The jury are beginning to think that they may have an unpleasant duty to perform at the close of these proceedings. They were very attentive to-day and listened what they heard with a very solemn expression upon their various countenances.

After the Poles were disposed of, the testimony of the police began, and was going on when the court adjourned this afternoon. It was clear and definite, as might have been expected; but it was more injurious to Luetgert than perhaps any, except the prosecution, anticipated.

Effect of the Police.

The first officer deposed as to the agitation of Luetgert just before his arrest, and how he had besought him to stand his friends; they had been acquainted for twenty-five years. The second created a smile by stating that his position during a conversation between Luetgert and Blask had been "under the bed." The conversation tended to show that Luetgert had anxiously inquired whether the police had "found anything" during their investigation of the factory, and was much relieved when Blask told him they had not.

But the third officer, a captain, and reputed to be one of the best men on the force, was the one who delivered what seemed a fatal blow to Luetgert, and its effect upon him, as well as upon his counsel, was terribly apparent.

He presented an unpleasant spectacle. All the stiffening had gone out of his body, his head settled down on his shoulders as if the bone were gone from his neck, and the head had a constant vibration, precisely like that of pulley. His pallor was extraordinary, as if his pendulous cheeks had been smeared with chalk. Spasmodic must have seen a man in this condition when he wrote "distilled almost to a jelly by the act of fear." I had always recognized the power of that description, but I had never before happened to meet with so complete an illustration of it. If Luetgert goes to the gallows, there will be a ghastly scene on the scaffold.

Prisoner Would Not Look.

In truth, there could hardly be imagined a more trying experience for him. That ring was all that was left of his wife. He had given it to her; he had had those letters engraved in it. When he cast her body into the vat—if he did cast it—he forgot to remove that ring—her witness of her husband's estate of wife. And now it was a terrible witness of something else.



She Fears That Her Husband May Kill Her.

There it was. When the last jurymen had examined it, he laid it down on the rail of the jury box and the light from the windows at the lower end of the room fell upon it, so that it shone with a clear yellow gleam. It was exactly before Luetgert as he sat; but he never glanced at it; his eyes perhaps saw a scene which they may do to-morrow. Luetgert has felt cruelty and monstrous crime. Oh, had he but remembered to pull off that ring from her helpless finger.

Why had he had those letters engraved on it? But he had not foreseen, then, what testimony they were one day to bear against him. Why had he married her? Why had he murdered her?

Collapse Was Very Near.

I do not wish to wrong this man, who is miserable enough, whether innocent or guilty. But I could not help fancying these thoughts in his mind. Whether he be innocent or not—whether he be hanged or not—he has known what it is to face death, and he did not like the sensation. A touch more and he would have collapsed altogether.

A man beside him leaned over and spoke to him, forcing a smile. Luetgert had no smile in him; he could not even change his position to lean, as his habit is, close to his interpreter. His mouth was dry, and he swallowed and swallowed, but no moisture would come.

Presently he made a desperate effort to sit erect and recover himself, but he could not do it; the next moment he sank back again in a loose mass. The deadly faintness would not be shaken off. There he sat, almost with his face to the wall, his counsel did not think to say consoling words to him just then; they looked distraught, too, but at length one of them, Mr. Phalen, rose, and began the cross-examination.

Defence Gained Nothing.

I am not, of course, competent to criticize legal procedure, but it seemed to me that this cross-examination, so far as it was carried to-day, helped the prosecution rather than the defence.

Something had to be done, no doubt; but what was done did not seem to me judicious. The testimony could not be shaken or discredited. On the other hand, facts began to come out which the defence wished to suppress. There was a wrangle as to whether certain evidence should be admitted. Either admit it all, or wipe it all out," the judge ruled. In the midst of the dispute 3 o'clock came, and with it adjournment.

It seemed to me to come too soon to all except the defence. The hours between this and to-morrow will not be too long for them to prepare their party to this blow. And if the whisper circulating about the room as we crowded out to leave, there are blows still more deadly in reserve. Luetgert will

POLICE SCORE ONE POINT.

Testimony as to What Was Found in the Vat Makes It Look Bad for Luetgert.

CHICAGO, Sept. 2.—The hundreds of eager spectators kept the balliffs at Judge Tutthill's court room busy when the Luetgert murder trial was resumed to-day. For a time it was impossible for those connected with the case to get in or out. Before the court was called to order the doors were locked and kept so until the crowd had been dispersed by the balliffs.

It was definitely announced to-day that Luetgert will be a witness in his own defence. The big sausage maker said the matter had been discussed between his attorneys and himself, and when the time comes he will take the witness stand and tell the jury about his actions on the night of May 1. Luetgert added that he will explain what he was doing in the basement of his factory and the experiments he was conducting.

The court opened with Frank Odorofsky, Luetgert's snake-tongued man, still in the witness chair. Yesterday Odorofsky gave his testimony in German. This morning he abandoned that language for Polish, his native tongue, and a new interpreter was necessary. He was examined by States Attorney Deneen.

It burned like fire. "Look at this stuff" (holding a can of material to the witness.)

"I can swear that this is the stuff that I smashed at the middle vat."

"Ask him if he means to say that it is the same stuff that he smashed there or similar stuff."

"I can swear that this is the identical stuff as I noticed; there is the same kind of brownish stuff, as it did there, comes up on top."

"What effect, if any, did this stuff that you smashed in the barrel have upon your hands?"

"Burning me just like fire."

"Are there any marks now on your hands from the effects of that stuff?"

"Yes, sir."

Shown to Judge and Jury.

The witness showed his hands and wrists to the jury and also to Judge Tutthill. Attorney Vincent then began the cross-examination of Odorofsky, asking him as to whether or not he had not had a police officer constantly with him of late.

The reply was "Only about a week."

"Has anybody read your testimony over



She Comes for Fun.



One of the Women at the Trial.

At every session the women are much more in evidence among the audience than are the men. This one illustrates a type of spectators who is on hand bright and early to see that Luetgert is properly punished.

to you and told you what you testified before Justice Kersten and Judge Gibbons?"

"No, sir; nobody has instructed me; I testified from the first the same as I am testifying now."

"You are sure of that, are you?"

"I am sure nobody has persuaded me to testify this and so."

Neither Money nor Position.

"You have been paid some money, haven't you?"

"I am not working for money; my testimony is from my conscience. I did not receive any money."

"You have been promised a position, haven't you?"

"No, sir; not even a position."

"Has any money been given to any member of your family?"

"No; my wife gets a few cents just to keep body and soul together."

"When did she get a few cents from?"

man, that he looked so wild as he did on that morning."

"Ham Frank's" Story.

When Mr. Vincent got through with Odorofsky States Attorney Deneen called Frank Lavandowsky, otherwise "Ham Frank," as he was known at the factory. Mr. Deneen asked him:

"What did you do at Luetgert's sausage factory?"

"I was cooking and wrapping the hams."

"Did you have anything to do with a barrel—that was placed in the shipping room at Luetgert's factory some time in March of this year?"

"I helped Frank Odorofsky to carry the barrel down, and we rolled it to the third vat, and then I went back to my work wrapping sausage. About 11 o'clock, I think, Frank came to me and asked me to go and help him smash this stuff in the barrel. I went with Frank down there, and on the way he showed me his hands, how this stuff burned his hands, so I went

to work and obtained some rags and wiped my hands into them, and then I saw he was burned up that way, and then I went with him."

"State to the jury how you cleaned the floor and what you observed there, if anything."

"I observed that there was some material, some peculiar material, smeared over the floor, but I cannot describe it just exactly. It was a reddish color, about the color of a brick, and soft and silny."

The Excuse of Luetgert.

Captain Herman Shuetler, of the Sheffield Avenue Station, who conducted the original search for Mrs. Luetgert, was the next witness.

"When did you first learn of the disappearance of Mrs. Luetgert?"

"On May 7 last."

"Did Luetgert notify you that his wife was missing?"

"He did not," I asked Luetgert why, when he found his wife was missing, he had not come to the station and notified me. He said that Mrs. Luetgert had been some where Saturday, that she had been acting strangely for several weeks before and that he thought she was crazy. I asked him why he did not let the police know, and he said he did not want to let anybody know that his wife had run away. Then I asked him if he had notified some private detectives. He said he had not."

"I had my suspicions aroused when the woman had been missing a week without anybody making a report to the police. I had all the woman's relatives seen that lived in town. I had the watchman, Blask, come to the station and tell his story about Luetgert's actions in the factory that night, and then I determined to search the factory."

What the Police Found.

"What did you do there?"

"Blask pointed out the vat in which the potash had been dissolved."

"What did you do at the middle vat?"

"We kicked out the bung, after putting some gunny sacks under the hole to catch whatever flowed out. A heavy substance of some sort came out of the sacks, and we took two bottles of it."

"What was done next?"

"Officer Deneen went into the vat and made a search of its interior."

"What did he find?"

"Pieces of bone and some rings."

The Rings Produced.

"Where are the rings now?"

"I have them with me."

Mr. McEwan laid the rings on the table before the jury, so that every one in the box could examine them at his leisure. Mr. Phalen picked them up and fitted the guard ring on his little finger. Luetgert watched him gloomily.

"Did you notice any marks on the rings?" Mr. McEwan asked.

"Yes, I noticed two 'L's on the inside of the big ring," replied the Captain.

"What was taken from the factory that day?"

"Some pieces of bone, the rings and two bottles of the fluid which we found in the vat."

"What remained on the gunny sacks after you knocked the bung out of the vat?"

"Some pieces of bone and a lot of silny stuff."

Mr. McEwan offered the rings in evidence, but Mr. Vincent objected on the ground that there was not a bit of proof on record to show that the rings belonged to Mrs. Luetgert.

"Oh, we will prove that beyond a question of doubt," was the reply of the Assistant Prosecutor, and Judge Tutthill, relying on this promise overruled the objection.

Before Police Captain Herman Schuetler was called to the witness chair the State proved the purchase of a keg of caustic soda by Luetgert in March last at the store of Lord, Owen & Co., and Officer Klingner detailed the conversation between Luetgert and Washburn Blask in the latter's house May 13, when Klingner was concealed under a bed. This was simply a corroboration of the testimony of Blask.

MRS. LUETGERT LOCATED?

Mysterious Cook of a Coal Barge Refuses to Answer Questions as to Her Identity.

Tonawanda, N. Y., Sept. 2.—It is possible that Mrs. Luetgert, whose husband stands charged in Chicago with murder, is

on board a boat in the harbor here. The captain of a steam barge has reported to Chief of Police McDermott that he has on board his vessel, acting in the capacity of cook, a woman who much resembles Mrs. Luetgert, and that her suspicious actions and marked reticence about her previous life have led him to believe that she may be the missing wife.

Chief McDermott says it is possible the mysterious cook is Mrs. Luetgert, for she resembles very closely the pictures and descriptions of the missing woman. When questioned the woman would tell nothing about her past life. The Captain said that he had never met the woman until he shipped her at Buffalo. She is supposed to have come down from some upper lake port on a lumber barge.

Luetgert in Consultation.

It is the frequent custom for the prisoner and his lawyers to put their heads together in a markedly confidential manner. In this instance Luetgert is shown on the right, while the other figure is that of Attorney Phalen.

on board a boat in the harbor here. The captain of a steam barge has reported to Chief of Police McDermott that he has on board his vessel, acting in the capacity of cook, a woman who much resembles Mrs. Luetgert, and that her suspicious actions and marked reticence about her previous life have led him to believe that she may be the missing wife.

Chief McDermott says it is possible the mysterious cook is Mrs. Luetgert, for she resembles very closely the pictures and descriptions of the missing woman. When questioned the woman would tell nothing about her past life. The Captain said that he had never met the woman until he shipped her at Buffalo. She is supposed to have come down from some upper lake port on a lumber barge.

Luetgert in Consultation.

It is the frequent custom for the prisoner and his lawyers to put their heads together in a markedly confidential manner. In this instance Luetgert is shown on the right, while the other figure is that of Attorney Phalen.

on board a boat in the harbor here. The captain of a steam barge has reported to Chief of Police McDermott that he has on board his vessel, acting in the capacity of cook, a woman who much resembles Mrs. Luetgert, and that her suspicious actions and marked reticence about her previous life have led him to believe that she may be the missing wife.

Chief McDermott says it is possible the mysterious cook is Mrs. Luetgert, for she resembles very closely the pictures and descriptions of the missing woman. When questioned the woman would tell nothing about her past life. The Captain said that he had never met the woman until he shipped her at Buffalo. She is supposed to have come down from some upper lake port on a lumber barge.

Luetgert in Consultation.

It is the frequent custom for the prisoner and his lawyers to put their heads together in a markedly confidential manner. In this instance Luetgert is shown on the right, while the other figure is that of Attorney Phalen.

on board a boat in the harbor here. The captain of a steam barge has reported to Chief of Police McDermott that he has on board his vessel, acting in the capacity of cook, a woman who much resembles Mrs. Luetgert, and that her suspicious actions and marked reticence about her previous life have led him to believe that she may be the missing wife.

Chief McDermott says it is possible the mysterious cook is Mrs. Luetgert, for she resembles very closely the pictures and descriptions of the missing woman. When questioned the woman would tell nothing about her past life. The Captain said that he had never met the woman until he shipped her at Buffalo. She is supposed to have come down from some upper lake port on a lumber barge.

Luetgert in Consultation.

It is the frequent custom for the prisoner and his lawyers to put their heads together in a markedly confidential manner. In this instance Luetgert is shown on the right, while the other figure is that of Attorney Phalen.

on board a boat in the harbor here. The captain of a steam barge has reported to Chief of Police McDermott that he has on board his vessel, acting in the capacity of cook, a woman who much resembles Mrs. Luetgert, and that her suspicious actions and marked reticence about her previous life have led him to believe that she may be the missing wife.

Chief McDermott says it is possible the mysterious cook is Mrs. Luetgert, for she resembles very closely the pictures and descriptions of the missing woman. When questioned the woman would tell nothing about her past life. The Captain said that he had never met the woman until he shipped her at Buffalo. She is supposed to have come down from some upper lake port on a lumber barge.

Luetgert in Consultation.

It is the frequent custom for the prisoner and his lawyers to put their heads together in a markedly confidential manner. In this instance Luetgert is shown on the right, while the other figure is that of Attorney Phalen.

on board a boat in the harbor here. The captain of a steam barge has reported to Chief of Police McDermott that he has on board his vessel, acting in the capacity of cook, a woman who much resembles Mrs. Luetgert, and that her suspicious actions and marked reticence about her previous life have led him to believe that she may be the missing wife.

Chief McDermott says it is possible the mysterious cook is Mrs. Luetgert, for she resembles very closely the pictures and descriptions of the missing woman. When questioned the woman would tell nothing about her past life. The Captain said that he had never met the woman until he shipped her at Buffalo. She is supposed to have come down from some upper lake port on a lumber barge.

Luetgert in Consultation.

It is the frequent custom for the prisoner and his lawyers to put their heads together in a markedly confidential manner. In this instance Luetgert is shown on the right, while the other figure is that of Attorney Phalen.

on board a boat in the harbor here. The captain of a steam barge has reported to Chief of Police McDermott that he has on board his vessel, acting in the capacity of cook, a woman who much resembles Mrs. Luetgert, and that her suspicious actions and marked reticence about her previous life have led him to believe that she may be the missing wife.

Chief McDermott says it is possible the mysterious cook is Mrs. Luetgert, for she resembles very closely the pictures and descriptions of the missing woman. When questioned the woman would tell nothing about her past life. The Captain said that he had never met the woman until he shipped her at Buffalo. She is supposed to have come down from some upper lake port on a lumber barge.

Luetgert in Consultation.

It is the frequent custom for the prisoner and his lawyers to put their heads together in a markedly confidential manner. In this instance Luetgert is shown on the right, while the other figure is that of Attorney Phalen.

on board a boat in the harbor here. The captain of a steam barge has reported to Chief of Police McDermott that he has on board his vessel, acting in the capacity of cook, a woman who much resembles Mrs. Luetgert, and that her suspicious actions and marked reticence about her previous life have led him to believe that she may be the missing wife.

Chief McDermott says it is possible the mysterious cook is Mrs. Luetgert, for she resembles very closely the pictures and descriptions of the missing woman. When questioned the woman would tell nothing about her past life. The Captain said that he had never met the woman until he shipped her at Buffalo. She is supposed to have come down from some upper lake port on a lumber barge.



SOME PROFILES OF PROMINENT FIGURES IN THE TRIAL OF LUETGERT.

ARNOLD LUETGERT, STATE'S ATTORNEY M'EWEN JUDGE TUTTHILL WATCHMAN BLASK ATTORNEY VINCENT POLICE INSPECTOR SCHAAN, the Blotch in the Case.